

AN ORDER FOR MORNING PRAYER

Introduction

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Lord, open our lips; and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
From the rising of the sun unto its setting your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your name: through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pause to reflect on what needs to be acknowledged and confessed.

Lord forgive what we have been, order what we shall be, sanctify what we are.
The past we commit to your mercy, the future to your providence, the present to your love. Amen.

The Venite (Psalm 95)

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God: and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth:
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
O that today you would hearken to his voice!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

The giving of the 10 commandments

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Canticle

Christ, as a light illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield overshadow me.

Christ under me; Christ over me; Christ beside me on my left and my right.

This day be within and without me, lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak; in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me, lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light; Christ as a shield; Christ beside me on my left and my right.

New Testament Reading: Mark 12: 28 – 34

Jesus sums up the ten in two great commandments

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?”

Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with

all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbour as oneself,' — this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Prayers (*feel free to use these words or words of your own*)

For the church

God our Father, we pray for your church throughout the world. We pray for our Bishop, Richard, and for all who are ministering to others in the cold weather. Help us to live as disciples of Jesus. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the world

God of justice, we pray for the world in which we live. Govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to your just and gentle rule. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the current winter weather

God of compassion, we pray for those whose lives are affected by the present weather, especially.....
We give thanks for those who are working to rescue other. Give them strength and protect them from all danger, and comfort and protect the vulnerable. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the sick and troubled

God of healing,
whose Son, Jesus Christ, understood people's fear and pain before they spoke of them,
we pray for those who are ill or in trouble; especially.....
surround the frightened with your tenderness; give strength to those in pain;
hold the weak in your arms of love, and give hope and patience to those who are recovering.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the parishes of LlannauGrange

Lord, this benefice, make it a place of peace.
Here be the peace of those who heed your word.
Here be the peace of those who serve each other.
Here be the peace of holy people praying.
Here be the peace of praise by dark and day.
Be this benefice your Holy Place.
We, Lord, your servants, make this prayer.
Be it your care.
Amen.

For ourselves

God our Father, the strength of all who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, in our weakness, we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

As our Saviour Jesus Christ taught us, so we pray: Our Father...

Closing

From where we are to where you need us, Christ be beside us.
From what we are to what you can make of us, Christ be before us.
Though the streets of this world to the gates of heaven, Christ be above us.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.